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# SFY 2012 Regional Funding Plan

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Southwest Maricopa  
Regional Partnership  
Council

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Date January 5, 2011  
Submitted to the  
First Things First State Board  
for January 24-25, 2011

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

**SOUTHWEST MARICOPA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL**  
**FUNDING PLAN SFY 2012**  
**July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012**

- I. Regional Allocation Summary (Funds Available)**
- II. Prior Years' Review, and Planning for SFY 2012**
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- III. System Building Impact**

## Section I

### Regional Allocation Summary

The following chart shows the total available funds to the Regional Council, by funding sources.

Allocations and Funding Sources	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012
Population Based Allocation	\$1,807,981.00	\$1,679,599.00	\$1,677,734.00
Discretionary Allocation	\$473,796.69	\$416,234.00	\$456,672.00
Other (FTF fund balance addition)		\$368,226.86	\$334,087.00
Additional Income (other than FTF tobacco tax)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Carry Forward from Previous Year</b>		\$1,369,145.74	\$239,831.60
<b>Total Regional Council Funds Available</b>	\$2,281,777.69	\$3,833,205.60	\$2,708,324.60

## **Section II** Prior Years' Review, and Planning for SFY 2012

For 2012 planning, Regional Councils are asked to review the strategies from years prior while they consider direction for SFY 2012. At their September 2010 meeting, the First Things First Board adopted priorities as were recommended by the Arizona Early Childhood Task Force. Following is the list of five priorities for First Things First action within the next one to three years. These are the roles for which FTF will establish measurable benchmarks and devote resources in order to achieve results for Arizona's young children and their families. These priorities are services which could be funded at both state and regional levels. Throughout this 2012 Regional Funding Plan, there are references to these new priorities. They are:

**Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings** - Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive, and affordable early care and education programs.

**Supports and Services for Families** - Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.

**Building Public Awareness and Support** - Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for efforts to increase public awareness of and support for early childhood development, health, and early education among partners, public officials, policy makers, and the public.

**Professional Development System** - Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and enhancement of an early childhood professional development system that addresses availability, accessibility, affordability, quality, and articulation.

**Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services** - Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality health care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families.

In addition, the Task Force recommended that FTF take a leadership role in three priorities that focus on program and process development at the state level. These are:

**Early Childhood System Funding** – Secure, coordinate, and advocate for resources required to develop and sustain the early childhood system. [This does not mean that FTF would be the sole funder of the early childhood system, but would take an active role in helping to increase and coordinate available resources.]

**Early Care and Education System Development and Implementation** - Convene partners and provide leadership in the development and implementation of a comprehensive early care and education system that is aligned both across the spectrum of settings and with the full continuum of the educational system.

**Quality Early Care and Education Standards, Curriculum, and Assessment** - Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and implementation of quality standards for early childhood care and education programs and related curricula and assessments. [This is integral to improving the quality of early care and education settings.]

**Section II A** Progress with SFY 2010 and 2011 Funding Plans And SFY 2012 Planning

The table below provides a summary of the Regional Partnership Council's prioritized needs and strategies for SFY 2012, as well as information on progress in SFY 2010 and SFY 2011.

PRIORITY NEED 1: Access to educational programs, services, and resources.						
Description: Support, enhance, and implement programs and services that provide parents and caregivers access to information, resources, and quality social support.						
Strategy: Family Resource Centers						
Regional Title and/or short description: This strategy will support families with resource referrals, parent literacy education, parenting skills, and assistance in enrolling children in health insurance plans. This strategy allows families to access services mainly in rural parts of the region where lack of transportation is a barrier for families.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Number of Families Served	500	200	426	1500	2750	2750
Strategy: Home Visitation						
Regional Title and/or short description: Program will deliver education, information and support to families where they are-in their homes. This strategy complements accessibility of resources by families in rural areas of the region. The model functions as a mobile family resource center.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Families Served	Not a Regional Strategy in 2010			126	126	126
Strategy: Parent Education Community-Based Training						
Regional Title and/or short description: Developmental Screening-Expand children’s access to developmental screenings through the implementation of a parent education community-based training model.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Number of Participating Adults	Strategy not implemented in 2010			300	300	300

Summary of Progress and Challenges Rationale for Changes to SFY12 Alignment with Strategic Direction						
<b>1. Strategy Success</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Resource Centers is the only family support strategy implemented in SFY 2010 through a contract established with the Avondale Care1st Resource Center. As a result of the success of the multiple partnerships created through this first center strategy, the Council has been able to establish agreements with the Towns of Buckeye and Gila Bend for similar centers. These upcoming new centers will create regional outlets for families to access support services. One of the many positive outcomes of this strategy is the ability to produce multiple partnerships among providers that complement First Things First for the overall support for families. This strategy also provides additional support for the implementation of other strategies funded by the Regional Council with an enhanced outreach network.</li> <li>The Regional Council was able to finalize the implementation of the remaining support strategies it had originally proposed in SFY 2011, including Home Visitation and Parent Education Community-Based Training strategies.</li> </ul>						
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b>						
This strategy addresses the lack of access to services in rural areas, a need identified in the most recent Needs and Assets Report. For implementation of the Family Resource Centers strategy, the challenge has been identifying agencies that have the capacity to organize and implement service delivery through the family resource center model that will best support the needs of the families in our regional area. In addition, there is a lack of facilities to house these programs in the rural area.						
<b>3. Strategy Changes for 2012</b>						
No changes.						
<b>4. First Things First Priorities</b>						
Support and Services for Families: These strategies coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their children's optimal development.						
<b>PRIORITY NEED 2: Access to affordable quality early care and education.</b>						
<b>Description:</b> Implement, expand, or enhance programs which increase families' access and affordability to quality early care and education programs. Implement, expand, or enhance programs that promote and support quality in regional early care and education programs.						
<b>Strategy:</b> <u>Quality First</u> (Statewide)						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Quality First – Support the statewide initiative Quality First. Increase Quality First participation opportunities for child care centers and family child care providers in the region. This strategy also includes TEACH and Child Care Health Consultation.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
QF Centers	10	10	6	12	12	12
QF Homes	5	5	2	5	5	5
TEACH scholars	22	22	4	29	29	29
CCHC Centers	10	10	6	12	12	12
CCHC Homes	5	5	2	5	5	5

<b>Strategy: <u>Family, Friends and Neighbors</u></b>						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Kith and Kin - Increases and improves skills and support for early care and education home providers or family/friends/neighbors caregivers. This strategy is very much needed in the region since it is estimated that over 60% of children ages 0-5 are cared for by unregulated home care providers.						
<b>Service Units</b>						
<b>Service Units</b>	<b>FY 10 Target</b>	<b>FY 10 Contracted</b>	<b>FY 10 Actual</b>	<b>FY 11 Target</b>	<b>FY 11 Contracted</b>	<b>FY 12 Target</b>
<b>Home Based Providers Served</b>	175	140	23	175	90	175
<b>Summary of Progress and Challenges Rationale for Changes to SFY12 Alignment with Strategic Direction</b>						
<b>1. Strategy Success</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality First: A total of 17 centers and homes have enrolled and participated in quality improvement through Quality First. Community feedback has been very positive and the Council will maintain their commitment to high quality early care and education.</li> </ul>						
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While the Family, Friends and Neighbors strategy has been a success mainly in the Avondale and surrounding communities, there continues to be a challenge in outreach efforts to rural providers. The Regional Council allocated more funding for transportation in SFY 2011 to help address this concern.</li> </ul>						
<b>3. Strategy Changes for 2012</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>						
<b>4. First Things First Priorities</b>						
Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings. Both strategies provide funding for increased quality of early care and education programs. Family, Friend and Neighbor strategy is of main priority to the Regional Council since approximately 60 percent or more children birth through five in the region are being care for in a home care setting.						
<b>PRIORITY NEED 3: Highly skilled and well prepared early childhood development and health workforce</b>						
<b>Description:</b> Provide early childhood professionals opportunities for professional development by providing trainings, scholarships and incentives to individuals pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development or other appropriate specialty area.						
<b>Strategy: <u>Scholarships TEACH</u></b> (Statewide)						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> T.E.A.C.H. -Provide additional T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships to professionals working in the region (non Quality First).						
<b>Service Units</b>						
<b>Service Units</b>	<b>FY 10 Target</b>	<b>FY 10 Contracted</b>	<b>FY 10 Actual</b>	<b>FY 11 Target</b>	<b>FY 11 Contracted</b>	<b>FY 12 Target</b>
<b>Participating Scholars</b>	56	1	1	15	15	15

<b>Strategy: <u>Scholarships Non – TEACH</u></b> (Multi-Region)						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP): Provide Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) scholarships to those working in the region who do not qualify for a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Participating Scholars	Not a Regional Strategy in 2010			35	30	30
<b>Strategy: <u>Director Mentoring/Training</u></b>						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Emergent Leaders Project: Provide high quality/best practice professional development for directors of centers through the Emergent Leaders Project.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Participating Professionals	Not a Regional Strategy in 2010			12	0*	12
* No 2011 Contract Currently in Place						
Summary of Progress and Challenges Rationale for Changes to SFY12 Alignment with Strategic Direction						
1. Strategy Success The Regional Council remains committed to support professional development. Professional Career Pathways Project has been well received within the region.						
2. Strategy Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Professional Career Pathways Project enrollees had difficulties in finding local educational institutions with courses available due to limited classes in the region.</li><li>First Things First is working with the Arizona Department of Administration to complete the Emergent Leaders contract. It is anticipated that this will be complete in the Spring of SFY 2011.</li><li>TEACH has experienced barriers in implementation mainly due to the matching financial commitments required by child care centers to comply before staff can participate in the program. It is anticipated that the Administrative waiver will address this barrier.</li></ul>						
3. Strategy Changes for 2012 No significant changes made to SFY 2012 from its SFY 2011 target.						
4. First Things First Priorities Professional Development System: Each of these strategies is designed to promote a highly skilled and well prepared early childhood development and health workforce.						
PRIORITY NEED 4 : Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services						
Description: Access to adequate health and dental care services, including preventive, screening, and follow-up services.						
Strategy: <u>Oral Health</u>						



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<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Oral Health prevention is scarce throughout the region, specifically in children ages birth through five and pregnant women. This strategy provides oral health screening, varnish services and prevention education.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Participants receiving oral health screening	Strategy not awarded in 2010			1293	1293	1293
Participating Adults	Strategy not awarded in 2010			100	100	100
Number of Fluoride Varnishes	Strategy not awarded in 2010			1293	1293	1293
Summary of Progress and Challenges						
Rationale for Changes to SFY12						
Alignment with Strategic Direction						
1. Strategy Success						
The contract was finalized with Maricopa County Department of Public Health on October 1, 2010, therefore implementation has just begun in the region.						
2. Strategy Challenges						
The main challenge to implement the strategy was the lack of available providers for this type of prevention program. The first Request for Grant Application issued resulted in a non-award decision by the Regional Council. The Regional Council opted to enter into a government to government agreement with the local public health department. Also, it is unknown how well referrals to dentists will develop for those children that require direct dental treatment.						
3. Strategy Changes for 2012						
No changes.						
4. First Things First Priorities						
Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services: This strategy is designed to ensure that all families, especially those who are underinsured, have access to health promotion and disease prevention programs, in this case Oral Health.						
PRIORITY NEED 5 : Service Coordination						
Description: Coordination among state, federal and local organizations to improve the coordination and integration of regional programs, services, and resources for young children and their families.						
Strategy: <u>Service Coordination</u> (FTF Directed)						
Regional Title and/or short description: Service Coordination – Collaborate on a regular basis with other Regional Partnership Councils in Maricopa County to enhance the coordination and communication of services, programs, and resources for young children and their families across regions. Establish and implement a coordination plan. There is no single major effort in the regions targeting the coordination of services for children ages 0-5.						

Summary of Progress and Challenges Rationale for Changes to SFY12 Alignment with Strategic Direction	
<b>1. Strategy Success</b>	Request For Proposal has been developed that includes all regions in Maricopa County. A planning phase will be implemented in the last half of SFY 2011 with continuing development and implementation in SFY 2012.
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b>	Obtaining approval of proposed scope of work by all regions in Maricopa County.
<b>3. Strategy Changes for 2012</b>	Once planning phase is applied, second phase will be developed and implemented.
<b>4. First Things First Priorities</b>	Early Care and Education System Development and Implementation: Coordination strategy will support system building by working toward achieving coordination across regions and among state, federal and local organizations to improve the coordination and integration of regional programs, services, and resources for young children and their families.
<b>PRIORITY NEED 6 : Building Public Awareness and Support</b>	
<b>Description:</b>	Increase awareness and understanding of the importance of early care and education. Increase awareness of issues related to promoting the optimal health and development of children birth through age five.
<b>Strategy:</b>	<u>Community Awareness</u> (Statewide) (FTF Directed)
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b>	<b>Community Awareness</b> – Engage in a community awareness campaign that works in partnership with other Regional Partnership Councils and the First Things First Board. FTF will participate in community events and presentations to civic groups and other community organizations.
<b>Strategy:</b>	<u>Media</u> (Statewide) (FTF Directed)
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b>	<b>Media</b> – Media Buys including TV, radio, newspaper, grocery carts, floor mats and cooler decals, billboards, theater ads.
<b>Strategy:</b>	<u>Community Outreach</u> (Statewide) (FTF Directed)
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b>	<b>Community Outreach Liaison</b> – Community outreach to recruit and retain early childhood champions in the region.
Summary of Progress and Challenges Rationale for Changes to SFY12 Alignment with Strategic Direction	
<b>1. Strategy Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hired a Community Outreach Liaison. The Liaison is shared with the Northwest Maricopa Regional Council.</li> <li>Performed community presentations including five formal presentations in the region and 3 formal cross-regional presentations.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruited 40 Children's Champions and produced 5 earned-media articles.</li> <li>Collaborated with other regions in Maricopa County to implement a media campaign.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b> Media networks are very fragmented due to the vast geographical area of the region and the number of cities and towns with limited media outlets.
<b>3. Strategy Changes for 2012</b> The Regional Council decreased funding in the area of media and redistributed funds among the Community Awareness strategy as the result of a change and focus to outreach and awareness in the community.
<b>4. First Things First Priorities</b> These strategies address Building Public Awareness and Support – The First Things First Statewide Priority is designed to convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for efforts to increase public awareness of and support for early childhood development, health, and early education among partners, public officials, policy makers, and the public.
<b>Priority Need 7: Regional Needs and Assets</b>
<b>Strategy:</b> <u>Regional Needs and Assets</u>
<b>Short Description:</b> The Regional Council would like to invest in evaluation of regionally specific data and information needed to inform statewide and regional specific strategic planning. Council approved data sets not included in the standard template will be added to the basic report.
<b>Summary of Progress and Challenges</b> <b>Rationale for Changes to SFY12</b> <b>Alignment with Strategic Direction</b>
<b>1. Strategy Success</b> Both Maricopa and Phoenix area Regional Partnerships Councils collaborated to select one vendor to complete the Needs and Assets report for each council.
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The standard template for the Needs and Assets report needs to be re-evaluated and perhaps revised. A better defined standard template will help vendors to provide the information needed by councils to make informed decisions.</li> <li>The timeline for implementation of the project and compilation of the report is rigorous and could benefit from extending the time allowed in the vendor contract.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Strategy Changes for 2012-</b> None

Prioritized Needs or Strategies <u>not</u> included in 2012 Planning						
PRIORITY NEED: Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services						
<b>Description:</b> Access to adequate health care coverage and services.						
<b>Strategy:</b> <u>Health Insurance Enrollment</u>						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Increase children's preventive health care by providing assistance to families in completing or renewing public health insurance applications. Increase community awareness of the availability of public health insurance options and ways in which families can apply.						
<b>Summary of Progress and Challenges</b> <b>Rationale for Changes to SFY12</b> <b>Alignment with Strategic Direction</b>						
<b>1. Strategy Success</b> This strategy was merged into the Family Resource Center strategy.						
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>						
PRIORITY NEED: Access to affordable, quality early care and education.						
<b>Description:</b> Implement, expand or enhance programs which increase families' access and affordability to quality early care and education programs.						
<b>Strategy:</b> <u>Child Care Scholarships (Statewide)</u>						
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Provide scholarships to families to help supplement the cost of quality early care and education, targeting children enrolled in Quality First centers who are 4 years of age.						
Service Units						
Service Units	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Contracted	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Contracted	FY 12 Target
Number of Increased Slots for Children	163 Emergency Funding	163	163	94	105	Not continuing in SFY12
<b>Summary of Progress and Challenges</b> <b>Rationale for Changes to SFY12</b> <b>Alignment with Strategic Direction</b>						
<b>1. Strategy Success</b> The child care scholarships were fully utilized in SFY 2010.						
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency Child Care Scholarships were provided in SFY2010 under FTF's emergency response plan. The Regional Council recognized the hardship on families that remained and, with the availability of carry forward funds, allocated funding towards child care scholarships in the second half of SFY 2011. However, the investment required is cost prohibitive for this region on its current total regional funding allocation due to the increased cost for implementing the strategy and other region priorities.</li> <li>Over 60% of children 0-5 in the region are being care for by Family, Friends and Neighbors making this type of provider a priority to address over formal child care centers.</li> </ul>						

<b>PRIORITY NEED: Evaluation</b>	
<b>Description:</b> The Regional Council would like to invest in evaluation of regionally specific data and information needed to inform statewide and regional specific strategic planning.	
<b>Strategy:</b> <u>Child Care Study</u>	
<b>Regional Title and/or short description:</b> Child Care Demand and Capacity Study - The study will identify the estimated number of children zero through five served in regulated and unregulated care; how the current supply of early care and education relates to the demand of families; and the role quality of early care plays in families' decisions.	
<b>Summary of Progress and Challenges</b> <b>Rationale for Changes to SFY12</b> <b>Alignment with Strategic Direction</b>	
<b>1. Strategy Success</b> The Child Care Study is a biannual study, not being conducted in SFY 2012. Funding allotted in SFY 2011 is not required in SFY 2012.	
<b>2. Strategy Challenges</b> N/A	

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**Section II B**

Budget: Regional Council Strategy Allotments

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council Operational Plan Funding Summary					2012 Proposed Allotments
	2010		2011		2012
FY Allocation	\$2,281,777.69		\$2,464,059.86		\$2,468,493.00
Carry Forward From Previous Year	na		\$1,369,145.74		\$239,831.60
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$2,281,777.69</b>		<b>\$3,833,205.60</b>		<b>\$2,708,324.60</b>
Strategies	Allotted	Expended	Allotted	Awarded	Proposed
Family Resource Centers	\$387,981.00	\$161,252.72	\$1,100,000.00	\$503,160.00	\$600,000.00
Home Visitation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
Parent Education Community-Based Training	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$240,000.00	\$199,548.00	\$240,000.00
Quality First (Statewide)	\$323,500.00	\$194,375.58	\$491,544.00	\$491,543.79	\$346,250.00
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$147,000.00	\$44,005.76	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
Scholarships TEACH (Statewide)	\$279,550.00	\$25,183.71	\$134,270.00	\$134,270.00	\$99,100.00
Child Care Health Consultation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$56,667.00	\$56,667.00	\$68,000.00
Scholarships non-TEACH (Multi-region)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76,500.00	\$76,500.00	\$76,500.00
Director Mentoring/Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$54,000.00	\$0.00	\$54,000.00
Oral Health	\$130,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
Service Coordination (FTF Directed)	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$55,000.00
Community Awareness (Statewide) (FTF Directed)	\$50,000.00	\$14,980.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Community Outreach (Statewide) (FTF Directed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$23,100.00	\$25,000.00
Media (Statewide) (FTF Directed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$58,000.00	\$60,323.00	\$10,000.00
Needs and Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,119.00	\$3,119.00	\$20,000.00
2012 Evaluation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$149,974.00
Evaluation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$122,988.00	\$122,988.00	\$0.00
Arizona Health Survey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,842.00	\$4,842.00	\$0.00
Child Care Study	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,327.00	\$37,327.00	\$0.00
Children's Budget	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,160.00	\$1,160.00	\$0.00
Parent Kits - Study	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,957.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Health Insurance Enrollment	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Child Care Scholarships (Statewide)	\$463,503.00	\$463,503.00	\$450,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$0.00
Food Insecurity	\$10,294.00	\$9,331.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,086,828.00</b>	<b>\$912,631.94</b>	<b>\$3,593,374.00</b>	<b>\$2,839,547.79</b>	<b>\$2,433,824.00</b>
<b>Carry Forward to Following Year</b>		<b>\$1,369,145.75</b>	<b>\$239,831.60</b>		<b>\$274,500.60</b>

**Section II C** Information about changes in funding level for strategies from 2011 to 2012

Strategy Name	Previous Funding Amount (SFY 2011)	New Funding Amount (SFY 2012)	Rationale for Change in Funding
Family Resource Center	\$1,100,000	\$600,000	SFY2011 funds reflect a one time \$500,000 addition to the original amount from 2010 carry forward funds for the creation of new resource centers in Gila Bend and Buckeye. Also a transfer of \$100,000 from the Health Insurance Enrollment strategy to the Family Resource Center strategy. The 2012 budget reflects the same level of \$500,000 as in the original three year budget formulated in 2010.
Child Care Scholarships	\$450,000	\$0	The SFY2011 Allotment was a one time funding as result of carry forward funds from 2010.
Community Awareness	\$2,000	\$15,000	Change in funding is a result of change in focus from media to outreach and awareness in the community by the Regional Council.
Media	\$58,000	\$10,000	This decrease in funding is the result of change in focus to outreach and awareness in the community by the Regional Council, plus the portion of the overall cost of media that the Council felt appropriate for the local region.
Needs and Assets	\$3,119	\$20,000	The Council has chosen to invest \$20,000 toward the 2012 Regional Needs and Assets Report.
Child Care Study	\$37,327.00	\$0	The Child Care Study is a biannual study, not being conducted in SFY2012. Thus, \$37,327 allocated in SFY11 is not required in SFY2012.
Carry Forward	\$239,831.60	\$274,500.60	Most of the strategies were not implemented until SFY 2011. It is anticipated that the Regional Council may allot additional funding to current strategies based upon program data and information to be received from the Child Care Study.

## Section III

### System Building Impact

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council has worked diligently to finalize implementation of many of its initial strategies set in SFY 2010 when the Council developed their three year strategic plan. Three additional Government to Government Agreements were completed in SFY 2011 with the towns of Gila Bend and Buckeye for the purpose of implementing Family Resource Center strategies, and with the Maricopa County Department of Public Health for Oral Health screenings, education, and fluoride varnish. Two Requests for Grant Applications (RFGAs) were awarded. One award was for Home Visitation and the other for Parent Education Community-Based Training which focuses on educating parents about developmental stages and helping with necessary referrals.

In part, due to the time period taken in implementing strategies and allowing the programs to progress in order to analyze data and evaluate the programs' effectiveness, the Regional Council did not make any major changes to its original three year plan. The summary conclusion from the 2010 Regional Needs and Assets Report suggested that the continuation of Family Resource Centers and other family support types of strategies are still viable strategies in the region. This will continue to mitigate families' access to information and service referrals and transportation barriers in the rural areas of the region.

With limited funding, the Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council understands that meeting these challenges and building the infrastructure for an Early Childhood Development System will take time. Using the guidance of the Pyramid Model Tiered Service Delivery System, the Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council identified the importance of continuing its original strategies to start addressing the critical factors in building the infrastructure while impacting immediate needs of families in the region. Most strategies are designed to provide Universal Services and Support for all children and families in the region as well as incorporating strategies that build infrastructure. While the strategies are built on research and evidence based best practices, they are practical in the sense that they also address the unique characteristics of the region.

#### Access to educational programs, services, and resources:

There are opportunities for improved collaboration and more communication with parents about early childhood needs and available services. The region builds upon the strength of the Care 1st Resource Center in Avondale by making it a hub for early childhood information and referrals. The lack of transportation and the distance to services were identified as barriers in this vast region. Funding was provided for the establishment or enhancement of Family Resource Centers helping children and their families access a variety of services on-site as well as referral information for additional services. The increased funding for SFY 2012 will add an additional two centers creating a system of hubs throughout the region. These two additional centers will be located in Gila Bend and Buckeye respectively. Within this strategy, the Regional Council also combined Health Insurance Enrollment as part of the standard package of services included at the Family Resource Centers. Continuing along the lines of enhancing family support, the Regional Council continued funding the Home Visitation strategy. In addition to parenting education, this specific strategy also helps families by providing information on how to access resources. The strategy also addresses the issue of lack of public transportation in the region, since the Home Visitation program will also function as a mobile resource center to serve families.



Access to affordable quality early care and education:

The Regional Council continues to support the statewide Quality First! Although the Council decided to fund Child Care Scholarships for the last six months of SFY 2011, this was mainly due to the continued economic recession as well as the availability of carry forward funds from SFY 2010. While affordability is an issue in the region, the Council continues to assess the balance between supporting this type of strategy and the need to improve the quality of care among home care providers (Family, Friends and Neighbors) which is where most of children in the region receive care.

Highly skilled and well prepared early childhood development and health workforce:

This funding continues to address the need to provide professional development opportunities for child care providers in the region. The 2010 Regional Needs and Assets Report indicates that approximately 60% of all children ages 0-5 in the region are receiving child care by Family Friends and Neighbors. There has been limited progress in reaching out to these providers in the rural areas, however, the increase of Family Resource Center “Hubs” in strategic areas of the region might improve these outreach efforts. The Regional Council also continues to add professional development opportunities for 15 TEACH Scholarships as well as for 35 child care center staff and 12 child care center directors through the Professional Career Pathways and Emergent Leaders projects.

Access to quality health care coverage and services:

The Regional Council was able to implement health strategies by the end of the first quarter of SFY 2011. Funding was provided for oral health screenings, fluoride varnish, referrals for follow up dental treatment and prevention information for parents and staff. Parent education about early identification, assessment and appropriate services for children with special health care needs, disabilities, or developmental delays is also being provided.

Overall Strategy Impact among Goal Areas:

As specified in the most recent Needs and Assets Report of the region, a continued focus on improving the strength of family, friend and neighbor child care makes sense, since it appears much child care in the region is informal. Investing in family resource center strategies builds on existing strengths and helps address the varied needs in the region. Specific family resource center services are focused on linking families with quality child care, health care and other necessary services.

Community members have emphasized a need to improve awareness among parents about early education needs and available services, social services, and services that meet basic needs, such as food and nutrition. The top recommendation in a survey performed for the Needs and Assets Report is for First Things First funding to improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs. With this in mind and using the bottom two levels of the Pyramid Model Tiered Service Delivery System, Infrastructure Building and Universal Services, the Regional Partnership Council ensures that funding was allotted appropriately and equitably among the First Things First Goal Areas. The Regional Partnership Council acknowledges the necessity of funding strategies that collectively built upon each

other, and thus was deliberate in their decision-making to ensure that strategies funded within goal areas collaborated to achieve desired outcomes.

#### Coordination and Collaboration Efforts:

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council developed its SFY 2012 funding plan with a sharp focus on continuing to build an infrastructure of services and resources that are applicable within the region as well as cross-regionally. The Council is working on various fronts to enhance its efforts in this area. First, the Council continues to work closely with the strategies proposed in our funding plan that align at minimum with those of the Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council. This will provide opportunities for joint collaboration in strategic planning for implementation and leveraging of resources between the regions. The two regions continue to engage in a Coordination/Collaboration Sub-committee with the addition of the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council. With the addition of the latter, the Councils engage in more conversations that address comparing strategies and outcomes. This will benefit families that reside and work across the regions.

Within the Southwest Maricopa Region, part of the Parent Education Community-Based Training strategy includes increasing connections among organizations for efficient and effective practices for the benefit of families. The formation of parent/organization blogs is one of many tools to be used in this strategy. Both the Northwest and Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Councils have started to hold Grantee meetings with the plan of increasing relationships among organizations, planning and division of roles, and sharing of successes. The increase of support generated by the Family Resource Center strategy has also been another tool in implementing the integration of organizations with the ultimate goal of a system that will have closer alignment of services, better communication among providers, an improved service delivery system, improved families outcomes and better use of resources.

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council is also participating in greater coordination and collaboration efforts by the Maricopa and Phoenix Regional Partnership Councils in producing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to research the best model/structure available that will strengthen coordination and collaboration systems across the Maricopa County regions.

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council will continue to engage with other stakeholders and partners to plan for and evaluate the implementation of the strategies toward the selected goals and key measures.